

REMARKS

Claims 31-48 are copied from U.S. 5,922,534 for purposes of preserving rights under 35 U.S.C. §135. The remaining claims find support in ancestor application 08/143,312, filed October 26, 1993 from which priority is claimed. The '312 application is incorporated by reference into the present application. Support for other claims is provided at e.g., the following locations in 08/143.312:

Claim 49: page 1, line 12 (silica), page 6, line 35 (glass), page 7, line 20 (covalent), page 7, line 12 (nucleic acid probe), page 42, lines 23-25 (drying substrate), and page 2, line 7 (target nucleic acid).

Claim 50: page 1, line 12

Claim 51: page 2, line 6

Claim 52: page 2, line 25

Claim 53: page 7, lines 5-6

Claim 54: page 28, line 19

Claims 55 and 56: page 26, lines 1-3

Claim 57: page 125, line 16

Claim 58: page 7, lines 5-6

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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